

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the final Office action mailed on September 14, 2007. This paper cancels claim 23, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 1-3 and 5-22 will be pending.

I. Entry of Amendments After Final Rejection

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the amendments merely cancel a rejected claim); (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office action rejects claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,953,119 to Wong et al. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claim 23.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 1-3 and 5-22 are allowed.

IV. Conclusion

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his thorough review of the application. As only allowed claims 1-3 and 5-22 remain pending upon entry of this Amendment, the Applicant respectfully submits that the present application, as amended, is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the issuance of a Notice of Allowability as soon as practicable.

The Applicant believes no fees or petitions are due with this filing. However, should any such fees or petitions be required, please consider this a request therefor and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 as necessary.

If the Examiner should require any additional information or amendment, please contact the undersigned attorney.

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Respectfully submitted,



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